



**U.S. Embassy Algiers Notice of Funding Opportunity:
MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MEPI) LOCAL GRANTS PROGRAM**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 28, 2016

About MEPI

The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) offers assistance, training, and support to groups and individuals striving to bring change to the Middle East and North Africa. MEPI supports projects, partnering with civil society organizations, community leaders, youth and women activists, private sector groups, and others to advance their efforts to create positive change in their societies. For more information about MEPI programs visit www.mepi.state.gov and <http://algiers.usembassy.gov/mepi.html>.

Funding Opportunity Description

The Local Grants Program serves as MEPI's most direct means of supporting organizations and individuals in the Middle East and North Africa. These grants are designed to:

- Promote positive change, advocacy, and civic activism;
- Build capacity and improve management within civil society organizations;
- Expand opportunities for women and youth;
- Strengthen the rule of law;
- Develop independent media; and
- Help communities work alongside governments in shaping their own futures.

*The Embassy welcomes applications that seek to address any of the priority areas listed above. **In addition, for this round of grants, added consideration will be given to projects that:***

Seek to contribute to Algeria's efforts to promote economic reform that expands economic opportunity especially for youth, including promoting entrepreneurship and commercial and legal reforms, as well as workforce development training.

The Mission U.S. Department of State and U.S. Embassy in Algiers encourage joint submissions from organizations working together on a project proposal

Amount of Funding Available

Local grants are generally for projects from \$50,000 to \$150,000, although there is flexibility for grants outside of this range. Projects are usually funded for one year, but the project period can be up to 18 months if a longer time period would yield more significant or better results.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include local representatives of civil society, non-profit organizations, community groups, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, private sector organizations, and universities.

Application Review and Selection Process

A MEPI Committee at the U.S. Embassy reviews all local grant proposals; the MEPI regional office in Morocco processes and negotiates the awards. Proposals will be evaluated by the following criteria: strength of project rationale; clear description of how activities address MEPI's goals and Embassy Algeria's priority areas; demonstrated benefit to beneficiaries after project's completion; relationship between activities and intended results; and costs that are reasonable and allowable.

How to Apply

Applicants interested in MEPI Local Grants funding must complete and submit the following two documents:

- **Project Narrative**
- **Budget Narrative**

Both documents must be submitted in English.

You will find the project and budget narratives forms here: <http://algiers.usembassy.gov/mepi.html>

Send your project and budget narratives via email to the U.S. Embassy at MEPIAlgiers@state.gov by the [deadline of February 28, 2016](#).